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impôt de patente; efforts have been made to introduce this tax in Toronto. Westmount supplies its needs liberally, with rates of taxation only one-third as high as those in Montreal. Toronto has in part followed the New York plan of financial administration by establishing a board of control with sole power to prepare the annual budget; a two-thirds vote of the council is required to overrule this board. A similar concentration of responsibility has been brought about in Montreal by the creation of a finance committee in the council; a three-fourths vote of the council is required to change the action of the committee.

These papers show that city government is reasonably successful in Canada. "But it will not do," says Dr. Wickett, "for Canadians to boast. They are not yet out of the wood."

F. R. CLOW.

Industrial Democracy. By SYDNEY AND BEATRICE WEBB. New Edition. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1902. 8vo. pp. xi + 929.

It is unnecessary here to say anything in commendation of Mr. and Mrs. Webb's great book. Its merits and services are too well known to economic students to call for renewed discussion. The present edition differs from the earlier one in that it is in a cheaper form—the two volumes of the first edition being here reprinted as one—and in the addition of an "Introduction to the Edition of 1902." No change is made in the body of the text, but the discussion brought up to date (December, 1901), by the Introduction. "During the four years which have elapsed since its publication, the trade union world has not appreciably changed in structure or function." The record for these later years (given in a similar introduction to the 1902 edition of the author's *History of Trade Unionism*) shows that the notable changes have been a large increase in membership and in funds. This increase has come, chiefly, to trades which were already in a strong position ten years ago, while the trades previously organized but in a slight degree, and trades comprising low-grade workmen have gained relatively little; while in some trades, as the clothing trades, the agricultural laborers, and the dockers, the unions have even lost ground. The total membership of British trade unions now probably exceeds two millions (1,905,116 in 1900, as against 1,502,358

in 1892.) The number of strikes, as well as the aggregate number of workmen affected by strikes, have, on the whole, also fallen off during the same period.

The greatest change recorded in the position of the unions is that effected by a series of decisions of the judges, particularly that of the House of Lords (July, 1901) imposing corporate liability upon the unions for the acts of their agents. As a result of these decisions, the unions are now in a notably more precarious position before the law than they have been during the past quarter of a century.